

From: Larry Jordan
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 8:45pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to voice my opposition to the currently proposed Microsoft settlement.

My fear is that if it is applied, Microsoft will be reasonably free to continue business as usual, which is to act in a anti-competitive, predatory way within the software development community.

Here's an example from personal experience that leads me to state the Microsoft needs much more severe sanctions.

In, about, 1993, Stac, a software developer in San Diego, developed a efficient software program for encrypting and/or compressing data files on a computer.

Microsoft licensed their technology then, in violation of their licensing terms, bundled it as part of the then-current Windows 3.1 operating system.

Stac sued Microsoft in court and won. Microsoft was found to have violated the terms of their license agreement, as well as applicable copyright and trade secret laws. Microsoft was forced to pay a \$4 million fine.

Microsoft paid the fine, but kept the purloined code in Windows. No longer able to sell their product, Stac went out of business, forcing over 100 people out of work. I never worked for Stac, but had many friends that did. This is not the proper way to reward hard, creative industrious work.

Where is the justice in giving Microsoft a slap on the wrist, when all they'll do is keep on doing what they've been doing?

This is neither fair, nor does it create incentives for other companies to compete against Microsoft.

Anti-competitive, anti-trust behavior needs to be punished in such a fashion that it does not recur. Anything less hurts all of us.

Thank you,

Larry Jordan